## **Update - August 26, 2014**

Pacific Northwest Region - Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

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## Wallowa Mountain Loop Road (FSR 39) Reconstruction

Construction continues on the 13-mile stretch of the Wallowa Mountain Loop Road, also known as the North Pine section of Forest Service Road (FSR) 39. The North Pine section begins at the junction of Highway 86 and FSR 39 and heads north for 13 miles on FSR 39 to the junction of FSR 66.

Until October 14, 2014, the 13-mile North Pine section of FSR 39 is OPEN for PASSAGE ONLY travel, EXCEPT visitors can expect up to one hour delays in the 13-mile construction zone or use detour route FSR 66. The construction area includes ¼ mile each side of FSR 39 in this 13-mile area; and again it is PASSAGE ONLY - no camping, hiking, hunting, firewood cutting, fishing etc. within this area, due to potential safety hazards. Reminder – because this is a construction area possible unforeseen delays may occur at any time and remind visitors to drive responsibly as they are still travelling in a construction zone.

Beginning October 15, 2014, it is our understanding that the contractor will be closing the 13-mile North Pine section of FSR 39, per their contract to begin their fall construction work. Forest Service Road 66, which is the detour route will continue to be open and is in good condition (until the snow flies). This 30-mile detour route is a single-lane gravel road with turnouts. The route is suitable for vehicles with trailers; however it is not recommended for motor homes or motorcycles. FSR 66 begins at the junction of FSR 39 and FSR 66 coming from Joseph, Oregon (also referred to as Duck Creek, Fish Lake Road, Twin Lakes Road, or Clear Creek Road) and continues west then south before connecting with Baker County Road 999, just north of Halfway. The contractor has until fall 2015 to complete the construction project, which includes paving of the 13-mile section of FSR 39.

For additional information on the Hells Canyon Scenic Byway, please visit: <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WallowaMtnLoopRd">www.hellscanyonbyway.com</a> - and/or – <a href="http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WallowaMtnLoopRd">http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/WallowaMtnLoopRd</a>

Thank you for visiting the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Travel safely, responsibly, and enjoy the beauty of Hells Canyon!



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